



News, Events and Information

Stop and Vote for our Roses!

Columbus Recreation and Parks is celebrating their 100th Anniversary- Happy Birthday! As a token of appreciation, we ask that you please vote for the [Whetstone Park](#) of Roses in an online contest. *All America Rose Collections* will be awarding the top scoring garden with the title of "America's Best Rose Garden" and a \$2,500 donation. Cast your vote by visiting the www.rose.org homepage then click on VOTE NOW.

Whetstone Park, located north of The Ohio State University, combines natural beauty, native Ohio prairie, and community amenities. The Park of Roses is a park within the park, a 13 acre rose garden that showcases over 350 varieties of roses, and 11,000 total roses. A recent addition, the Whetstone Prairie, planted in May 2004, converted 5.1 acres of Whetstone Park into native Ohio prairie with vernal pools and woodland buffer.

GreenSpot: Are you a member yet?

Interact with over 1600 homeowners, businesses and community groups when you become certified as a GreenSpot location and get connected to fellow members on [Facebook](#). Mayor Michael B. Coleman's GreenSpot Program is available free to anyone across the central Ohio region as a guide to going green. Available at www.columbusgreenspot.org, we hope you will sign up to become a member today!

Yellow Cab Goes Green

The City of Columbus recently approved marketing identification for green taxi's in Columbus. Taxi's fueled by alternative fuels will be clearly labeled on the side and back windows. Yellow Cab vehicles will be powered by propane as a result of a Department of Energy grant administered by Clean Fuels Ohio. Taxi's can be hailed by phone (444-4444), text message (777222), or online at www.yellowcabofcolumbus.com.

Fleets that convert vehicles to propane can expect:

- Lower fuel costs
- Significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- Lowered dependence on foreign oil (90% of propane is produced in the U.S.)

Accolades

- The American Lung Association recently awarded Mayor Michael B. Coleman with the Clean Vehicle Champion Award for his work to promote the use of clean vehicles and healthier air. Mayor Coleman's greatest accomplishment in reducing air pollution has come from the Green Fleet Action Plan which was issued in January of 2008. The plan reduces pollution through fuel reduction strategies including an anti-idling policy, the use of biodiesel and compressed natural gas, grants for emissions reductions and purchasing cleaner vehicles, and language in bid specifications that gives preference to hybrids, flex fuel, CNG, and other "green" vehicles.

Green Events & Activities

Get involved with the sustainability in the City of Columbus and Central Ohio by visiting the MORPC Green Community Calendar [online](#).

- **Horticulturist Tour/Talk:** June 26, 11a.m.- 12noon- Tour parts of the Franklin Park Conservatory and grounds to get the inside scoop on plants and how we care for them. Free with admission. No advance registration necessary, just stop by and join the fun. <http://www.fpconservatory.org/programsadultclasses.htm#garden>
- **Merion Village Garden Tour:** July 11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.- The 11th tour of its kind, the Merion Village Association will open a series of 10 unique and lovely gardens for you to tour at your own pace. This event is FREE to the public, and is held rain or shine. ALL featured gardens and adjoining residences have been registered as Columbus [GreenSpot](#) members. The Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District will conduct a live demonstration of a rain barrel installation. The Merion Village community strives to be at the forefront of environmental responsibility. www.merionvillage.org
- **Bike Columbus Festival:** July 16 and 17 and August 1- This three day celebration of all things bicycling has something for everyone and is your chance to benefit cycling and healthy living in Central Ohio. More information and registration at www.bikecolumbusfestival.com.
 1. Friday, July 16th – Come ride with Mayor Michael B. Coleman through the streets of downtown on Friday night for the Mayor's Twilight Ride and get a free ticket to a Columbus Crew game! as well as some cool Swag and great entertainment and food. We'll also host a swap meet where you can buy, sell, or trade your way to some classic gear.
 2. Saturday, July 17th – Join us for the Steve Barbour Memorial Tour - Choose from routes of 25 up to 125 miles for a full day of riding through the quiet, scenic and challenging roads outside of Columbus.
 3. Sunday, August 1st – The Garrett Wonders Criterium will bring national-class racers to downtown Columbus. Either come out and test your legs in a race, or just come watch some amazing high speed racing in the streets of downtown.

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